



June - August 2012 Edition 59

RRP \$8.50

# ICE *Breaker* MAGAZINE

TASMANIA'S ANTARCTIC NEWS AND VIEWS

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Cover picture

Courtesy Fréderique Olivier



## Editorial

Special Antarctic events have continued this quarter into the next with the Amundsen Centenary day in March and Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings in June. The TPN are also sending a delegation, including myself, to the SCAR/COMNAP meetings in Portland, Oregon in July. It is exciting to be able to attend events where there are opportunities to promote TPN goods and services to international buyers and I hope we can all return with news of more sales.

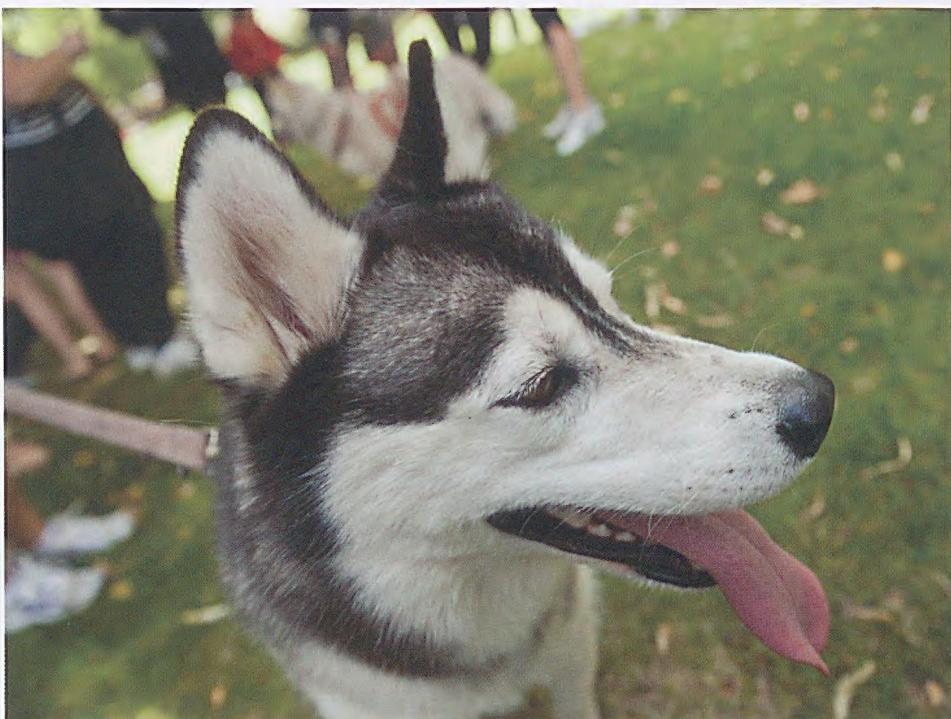
By now, some of you will have received a letter explaining that Ice Breaker magazine's last edition will be the next one, No. 60.

After 15 years of publication, I would like a break from the full responsibility of production, although I would be happy to provide articles for other magazines.

Thank you to all contributors of articles, photographs and news items; and to subscribers and advertisers. You have provided such a wealth of Antarctic material over the years. Without you, Ice Breaker would not exist, but I'm sure that after September, some of you will be relieved not to be sent pesky reminders of quarterly deadlines!

### Anthea Wallhead

Editor, Ice Breaker



Courtesy Antarctic Tasmania



Ice Breaker magazine is published independently by Icewall One as a quarterly magazine covering Tasmanian Polar and Southern Ocean related topics.

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**Advertising Rates:**  
Available online at [icebreakermagazine.com](http://icebreakermagazine.com)

**Subscription Rates:**  
Australia wide: \$38.00  
International: \$48.00

(All prices AUD and inclusive of GST where applicable)

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**Thanks to Klaus Arne Pedersen, Sue Halliwell and Frédérique Olivier for their permission to use their Antarctic photographs.**

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**David O'Byrne**

Minister for Economic Development

## Huskies and History

**V**isiting the Amundsen Centenary Huskies Picnic in the beautiful St David's Park in March, I was struck by the genuine affection that we, as Tasmanians feel, for our Antarctic history and the pride it inspires in all of us. Huskies are long gone from Antarctica but we got a taste of their strength and skill as a team of huskies pulled a wheeled sledge through Hobart's streets, celebrating the centenary of Norwegian Roald Amundsen's incredible feat of reaching the South Pole for the first time.

The part Hobart played in Amundsen's story was an important one. As the first stop on his return journey, the triumphant cablegrams announcing his success to the King of Norway were sent from the newly built Hobart General Post Office. Amundsen recorded staying at the historic Hadley's Hotel the night before breaking the news to the world. Both the GPO and Hadley's are still well known Hobart landmarks and by understanding their role in Amundsen's story we can relate better to this important part of our city's past.

Hobart turned on a magnificent day for the event, with family fun in the park and the Ambassador of Norway, Her Excellency Siren Gjerme Eriksen, unveiling a commemorative plaque at the GPO. The afternoon saw Hadley's Hotel host an Amundsen-themed high tea with local historian John Williamson and a public seminar from international Amundsen expert Susan Barr, in town for the International Polar Heritage Conference.

Those interested in our polar heritage may be interested to note that plans are also underway to reframe and dedicate the historic Lady Jane Franklin sledging flag at St David's Cathedral. The reframing will be of conservation quality, protecting and showcasing another of our important historical assets.

Of course, in addition to these historic connections which have been celebrated, Hobart still plays a critical role in Antarctic expeditions.

Our cold climate businesses, world class scientific institutions and maritime logistics will soon be showcased at the 35th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM). Close to 400 delegates from Antarctic treaty nations will visit Hobart from 11-20 June to exchange information relating to Antarctica and discuss ways to further the objectives of the treaty. This is an important opportunity for us to showcase Tasmania's cold climate expertise.

As the Antarctic Centennial Year draws to a close, I would like to extend my thanks to the Antarctic and wider community for supporting such a significant 12 months which saw about 30 events in total. The significant centenary celebrations of Mawson and Amundsen have directly involved more than 5,500 people, and the five international conferences held, including the upcoming ATCM, will have attracted more than 830 delegates. This is not including the participation of many hundreds more attending exhibitions, performances, symposiums and seminars all celebrating Tasmania's enduring endeavour in Antarctica.

The depth of knowledge and skill in the sector - from innovative product design to scientific and artistic talent - as well as the unique sense of collegiality within the industry is a real asset to Tasmania, and something of which I am proud to be a part.



Courtesy Antarctic Tasmania

**Cassy O'Connor**

Green's Spokesperson  
on Antarctic Affairs

## Our maritime and whaling history

**R**ecently, I had the great pleasure of welcoming Captain Peter Hammerstedt and the crew of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society vessel the Bob Barker (pictured) back to Hobart after this year's successful operation Divine Wind in the Southern Ocean, which cut short the Japanese whaling season and saved 700 whales.

Some people think they are pirates and law-breakers, but I reckon these eco-warriors risk their lives to protect the planet's whales because they care with all their brave hearts and because the Australian Government and the International Whaling Commission (IWC) are failing in action. Successive Australian Governments have failed to stand up to Japanese whalers, spied by the Bob Barker crew this season lurking in Australian territorial waters off Macquarie Island.

Tasmania's society and economy were once driven by, among other things, a thriving whale industry, with whaling stations all around the coastline. Thousands of whales were slaughtered in our waters by whalers from across the globe. The practice only ceased because they ran out of whales. Public opinion has blessedly shifted today and most people in most countries condemn the whaling. I think it is reasonable to suggest that we have a debt to repay to the mighty whales.

As global citizens, the Bob Barker crew are helping to repay the debt by focusing the spotlight and providing the thin blue line that protects these Southern Ocean cetaceans. The Sea Shepherd Conservation Society and the Bob Barker are now, for all the right reasons, part of our maritime and whaling history and will be remembered in the history texts, I am certain.

The Greens are also working to repay the debt by putting the case for an expanded whale sanctuary. The Australian Whale Sanctuary, established under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, starts from the Exclusive Economic Zone, three nautical miles off the Tasmanian shoreline.

The Greens propose to extend the formal whale sanctuary into Tasmanian waters by amending the State's Whale Protection Act 1988. The amendment was sadly defeated by both Labor and Liberal parties in State Parliament in April.

Migrating whales still contribute to the local economy, but instead of shooting them with harpoons, people pay to shoot them with digital cameras. Whale watching is a flourishing industry - declaring a Tasmanian Whale Sanctuary would have further enhanced the State's clean, green brand and sent another strong message to the whalers that we care about these mammals, offer them our protection and want them to be left to live in peace.

Over the past year, there has been much talk and celebration about the remarkable feats and extraordinary life of Douglas Mawson. He was a dedicated conservationist and spent the latter part of his life as a professor at the University of Adelaide where among many interests; he focused on the conservation of the unique wildlife in our oceans. If he were alive today, it would be interesting to hear his views on the annual slaughter in the Southern Ocean. I would like to think that he would be a proud supporter of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, if not a member of the crew...





## Denzil Miller

Director, Antarctic Tasmania Science and Research Development

# This rich heritage

**A**s the Antarctic Centennial Year comes to an end, Minister O'Byrne has outlined its important legacy for Tasmania's Antarctic Sector and the Sector's key place in the State's economic development.

With my first anniversary as Director, Antarctic Tasmania, Science and Research Development coming up, I am often struck by the coincidences that populate the landscape of polar endeavours. As Shakespeare's Othello has indicated:

"Trifles light as air are to the jealous confirmations strong as proofs of holy writ".

Nowhere is this truer than for the enduring relationship between Tasmania's polar community, the Office of the Tasmanian Governor and St David's Cathedral in Hobart.

It is not well known that Lady Jane Franklin, respected and influential wife of former Governor Sir John Franklin, presented a sledge flag to Lieutenant WR Hobson RN in 1857. Hobson was second in command on Captain McClintock's Franklin relief expedition, organised by Lady Jane to search for her lost husband in the Arctic.



Portrait of Lady Jane Franklin by Miss Romilly

With a sledge drawn by four men and another drawn by seven dogs, Hobson crossed the Northwest Passage from Cape Victoria to Cape Felix on King William Island. On 3 May 1859, he came across cairns and relics of Franklin and his followers, thereby verifying their discovery of the Northwest Passage and their eventual fate in 1847.

The flag hung for many years in Exeter Cathedral alongside a similar flag from Captain Robert Falcon Scott's Antarctic sledge. It was removed from Exeter Cathedral during the 'blitz' when the Cathedral suffered severe bomb damage. In 1946, the flag was presented to the people of Tasmania by His Excellency the Governor, Admiral Sir Hugh Binney, KCB, DSO, whose mother was a Hobson. It was then placed in St David's.

The 'coincidences' involving St David's and the Office of the Tasmanian Governor continued when Sir Douglas Mawson and the Australian Antarctic Expedition were farewelled from the Cathedral on 26 November 1911. Also, on 17 March 1912, Roald Amundsen attended a special service at the Cathedral to welcome his successful South Pole expedition, and to pray for the well-being of Captain Scott's party, long overdue from the pole. The service was attended by Scott's sister, Ettie Myers Scott, who was married to the soon to be Tasmanian Governor, Sir William Ellison-Macartney.

To supplement this rich heritage, and as part of the Antarctic Centennial Year celebrations, Lady Franklin's flag will be dedicated during morning song at St David's on 17 June 2012. This dedication will commemorate the sacrifice of all polar explorers and will again involve the office of the Governor. It will take place during the Thirty Fifth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM XXXV) and in the thirtieth anniversary year of the entry into force of the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources.

A rare and unique series of coincidences indeed!



**John Brennan**  
Chairman, TPN

## An interesting group on board

Well I can report to you after my brief visit to Dumont D'Urville in February/March that I was not seasick and Antarctica is as wild and beautiful as ever. It indeed was a privilege to be part of the round trip south and have the experience of seeing how our friends in the French Antarctic program undertake their duties south. L'Astrolabe is of course smaller than Aurora Australis and this left me pondering what it would be like in large seas etc. What struck me during the sea voyage down and back was the very relaxed nature of crew and expeditioners/marine scientists and the manner in which everything got done.

It was an interesting group on board consisting of French scientists, CSIRO technicians and expeditioners heading south for the winter. One couple heading south were Frédérique (Fred) and Marty, who will be filming Emperor penguins over winter using remote cameras and rovers that are disguised as rocks and a penguin!

The French station has a great aspect, perched on the top of the island and I can't imagine what it's like in summer when the Adelie penguins invade (constant noise and penguin poop).

We were all made to feel most welcome on station and provided with a guided tour around the different sections, with expeditioners taking the time to interact and convey what they do.

I was most fortunate to also visit Cape Prudhomme, the staging base for the 1200+ km one way inland traverse to Concordia station. I was very pleased to see the abundance of Tasmanian made or modified machinery.

With less than a week at the station, time raced away and a large group of summer expeditioners prepared themselves to withdraw from station and leave it to the new winter crew. The voyage back went via Commonwealth Bay, but alas I was unable to see Mawson's Huts. I did however feel a little nostalgic about the visit and certainly reflected upon how tough and brave those folk were back 100 years ago.

We are lucky to be a hub of Antarctic and sub-Antarctic excellence and from what I understand, if we as a state continue to embrace and support similar sectors that fit our natural advantage (e.g. Agriculture, Aquaculture, IT, Tourism) with such positivity we will, in the longer term, prosper as a state financially, socially and environmentally.



*Photo: Esmee van Wijk*



**Damon Thomas**  
Lord Mayor, Hobart

## Council's Antarctic support

I am pleased to be able to write this article at such an important time in Hobart's Antarctic calendar. As we go to print the Antarctic Treaty Convention Meeting is obviously about to commence right here in Hobart. What a coup for Hobart, and what an opportunity to show off our Antarctic capability.

Hobart City has been pleased to assist in the meeting organisation and has arranged for Antarctic-themed street banners to be on display during the meeting, as well ensuring the friendly staff at the Tasmanian Travel and Information Centre are aware of this meeting and in a position to provide the very best and most relevant information to delegates and their families. I am also very pleased to have been invited to personally welcome the heads of delegations at an event on the eve of the meeting getting underway.

Many of you will be aware that the Council signed up to a document titled the Southern Rim Gateway City's agreement, between Hobart, Christchurch, Ushuaia, Punta Arenas and Cape Town at an event held in 2009 in Christchurch. Earlier this year the Council resolved to hold the second meeting of this group in Hobart to coincide with the Treaty meeting. This meeting presents an exciting opportunity for the Mayors of the five gateway cities to talk about areas of common interest, while recognising that each of the cities has a different emphasis. The meeting is being designed to allow the Mayors an in depth opportunity to talk about these areas of common interest and to reach genuine understanding of where each of us is headed in a strategic sense.

I look forward to keeping you informed.



*Photo: Esmee van Wijk*



*Image courtesy Tasports*

## Waterfront developments

Tasports is sourcing a contractor for construction works associated with the redevelopment of Macquarie Wharf Shed No. 2. Tenders were released in May and work expected to commence in mid June 2012.

The historic foundations of the existing shed will be retained, while the interior will be transformed into a modern, open design to suit a facility dedicated to cruise ships as well Southern Ocean and Antarctic ships.

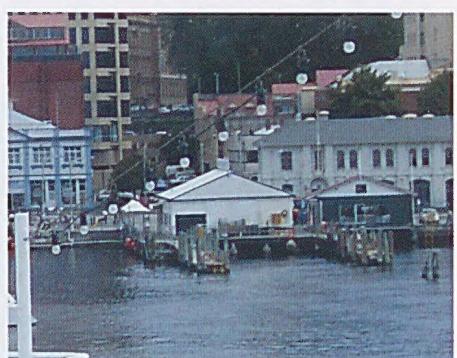
The main upgrade will include the removal of a cold store, development of coach parking bays and installation of a new Colorbond roof and large glass windows for energy efficiency. The building's colour scheme will be consistent with recent waterfront developments.

Further information is available at [www.tasports.com.au](http://www.tasports.com.au)



Plans for the railyards behind the wharf area are being reconsidered once Tasrail leaves for the Brighton transport hub north of Hobart. Current stakeholders and interested parties have begun meetings to consider the best options and hope to have proposals ready for the Cabinet by the end of the year.

Another consortium is developing new plans to replace the Brooke St Pier. In April, the group publicised a floating pier which includes a ferry terminal for the two Derwent River ferry operators, plus a cafe and restaurant. A development application has been submitted, while other business decisions about the project are being finalised.



*Top and Left: Macquarie Wharf Shed No. 2*

*Middle and Above: Views of the existing ferry terminal.*

# Thirtieth Anniversary

On 7 April 2012, representatives of the Antarctic community in Hobart gathered at 181 Macquarie Street to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (the CAMLR Convention). The gathering had the honour of being addressed by Sir Guy Green (pictured) who, as the Lieutenant-Governor of Tasmania at the time, entertained delegates who were in Hobart for the first CCAMLR regular session in May 1982.

In 1980, the governments of Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Chile, The French Republic, German Democratic Republic, Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, The Republic of South Africa, The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and The United States of America accepted an invitation extended to them by the Government of Australia to participate in a Conference on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources.

The European Communities; Food and Agriculture Organization; Inter-governmental Oceanographic Commission; International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources; International Whaling Commission, Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research; Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research were also invited to participate as observers.

The Conference met at Canberra on 7-20 May 1980 under the chairmanship of Mr J. E. Ryan (Australia). The Conference established the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (the CAMLR Convention) which was opened for signature 20 May 1980.



With the required eight ratifications from among the original signatories the Convention entered into force on 7 April 1982.

In his address, Sir Guy highlighted the considerable achievements of CCAMLR that had resulted from a combination of sound science, due process and diplomacy. He observed that

“...CCAMLR provides an inspiring and instructive model for those concerned with environmental management and conservation generally. In refreshing contrast to the often confrontational and ideological approach to conservation issues taken in other forums, CCAMLR does not take polarised positions but strives to find workable solutions which give practical application to the principle upon which the convention itself is founded that the conservation of marine resources and their sustainable use are not necessarily incompatible but are objectives which are both achievable”.

*Sir Guy Green addressing guests gathered at the CCAMLR offices to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the organisation.*

Sir Guy noted that not only had CCAMLR been successful in addressing many challenges in the Southern Ocean during the last 30 years but that the pioneering work of CCAMLR has, in numerous instances, been taken up and progressed in other fora. He was confident that CCAMLR will effectively manage the challenges it will face in the future by continuing to base its decision-making on best available science and intelligent diplomacy. He considered that the CAMLR Convention is successfully standing the tests of time and that it provides the organisation with an excellent foundation for an on-going critical contribution to the conservation of Antarctic marine ecosystems.

*Text and photos courtesy CCAMLR.*

## Positive ACE reviews

By the time this edition of Ice Breaker is published, the ACE CRC will have completed its mid-term "Performance Review". Funding for this term of ACE commenced on 1 January 2010 and will finish on 30 June 2014.

In the lead up to the May Performance review, which will be conducted by the Cooperative Research Centre Committee, ACE commissioned Agtrans Research to undertake an independent review of the usefulness of its activities. As CEO, I am very pleased with the feedback provided by the end users of ACE CRC research.

Respondents were asked to identify the kinds of outputs from the ACE CRC they used. The most commonly used outputs were the ACE CRC website and newsletter (71%), followed closely by the ACE CRC position analyses (68%). Eighty-eight percent of scientists surveyed used ACE CRC research papers in peer-reviewed journals. Industry end users most commonly used technical reports (80%), Climate Futures for Tasmania reports (70%), and the ACE CRC sea-level rise decision-support tool (70%). Government end users rated the ACE website and newsletter (80%) and position analyses (70%) most highly.

The respondents were also asked to rate the usefulness of the kinds of information ACE provided using a 1 to 5 scale (where 5 is the best score).

In response to the question: "In a hypothetical situation where the ACE CRC did not exist, what do you think would be the more likely implications?" Ross Garnaut indicated that a recommendation to establish an organisation such as the ACE CRC would have been made in the Garnaut Climate Change Review if the ACE CRC didn't already exist.

On average the highest ranking was given to the sea-level rise decision-support tool (4.74) and the articles in peer reviewed journals (4.44). Scientists found articles in peer reviewed journals (4.71) and position analyses (4.50) most useful. Industry found the sea-level rise decision support tool (4.86) and Climate Futures for Tasmania (4.71) most useful. Government rated articles in peer reviewed journals (4.75) and position analyses (4.57) highest.

It is evident from this review that ACE CRC science has been widely used across the three tiers of government, by industry and other scientists. The report also provides strong evidence that ACE provides a focus for improved research coordination leading to greater research resource efficiency and effectiveness. ACE is indeed a unique research collaboration and one that is also highly regarded.

On behalf of all of the staff of the ACE CRC I wish to convey our condolences to the family, friends and colleagues of Dr Neil Adams. Neil was a great partner in the ACE CRC and a friend to the whole Antarctic community. We still miss you, Neil.

**Tony Press**

CEO ACE CRC

## TPN News

### Intranet benefits

The recent sale of three fibreglass Igloos to Swedish polar research institutes provides a positive example of the Tasmanian Polar Members working co-operatively to reinforce Tasmania's polar resupply status.

Icewall One, designers of the Igloos, contacted Penguin Composites to manufacture the Igloos and crate them ready for dispatch. Tasmanian Worldwide Shipping arranged for the Igloos to be packed into a container and shipped from Penguin via Melbourne and Singapore to Gothenburg, Sweden.

Once unloaded and cleared through Customs, the three crates will be collected by three researchers and delivered, some by helicopter, to remote sites in Sweden, where they will be equipped with sensitive wind measuring instruments.

## Different Ways ACE CRC Outputs Are Used

Outputs on sea-level rise and climate change impacts were used in the Western Australia State Planning Policy 2.6 Review...

Position Analyses are used regularly in providing briefings on climate change science to the Ministers...

ACE research outputs have been used in reports such as "The Critical Decade", a report from the Climate Commission; and in the Garnaut Climate Change Review.

## New Antarctic PhD program

*Text and photos courtesy IMAS*

The Australian Antarctic Division and The Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies at the University of Tasmania have joined forces to offer a new PhD program in Quantitative Antarctic Science. This new initiative aims to build capability in quantitative research in Antarctic Science, and complements the existing CSIRO-UTAS PhD Program in Quantitative Marine Science.

The program will offer scholarships to attract high quality students, who will work on quantitative projects of direct relevance to the Australian Antarctic Science strategy.

Students enrolled in the program will undertake PhD research on approved quantitative projects. Each project will have at least one supervisor from each of the AAD and IMAS/UTAS.

As part of their studies, students will also be required to complete a Graduate Diploma consisting of 8 units of coursework, covering general research techniques as well as various aspects of Antarctic and marine science.

Dr Simon Wotherspoon, Course Coordinator from IMAS is keen to talk with anyone interested in more information and scholarship options.

"When students have completed this program they will have a world of opportunities open to them to work in the unique and exciting environment of Antarctica and to add real value to ongoing study in this fascinating icy desert", he said.

Students will be eligible to apply for QAS scholarships, plus an annual stipend to cover research costs such as conference travel.

### Contact details:

**Tel:** 03 6226 6684

**Mob:** 0468 328 193

[simon.wotherspoon@utas.edu.au](mailto:simon.wotherspoon@utas.edu.au)

## The Igloo at Mawson's Huts



Thirty years ago, the first fibreglass Igloo Satellite Cabin, purchased by the Australian Antarctic Division, was shipped to Antarctica aboard the Nella Dan. Five more Igloos were manufactured over the next two years, but it is Igloo 007 that now plays a small part in the history of Mawson's Huts at Commonwealth Bay.

The following is an extract from the Igloo diaries, which have been kept since the first Igloo was manufactured:

007  
ANTARCTIC DIVISION  
O/N 47549-5  
17-9-84

IGLOO SATELLITE CABIN MKII  
A RED

4 WINDOW PANEL (DOUBLE  
GLAZED POLYCARB\*)  
3 PLAIN PANELS  
1 DOOR PANEL  
8 TIE DOWN LINES  
1 TOOL BOX  
4 PANEL SANDWICH FLOOR  
(HINGED JOINTS)

First set-up on the docks in Hobart before leaving on the Dick Smith Explorer to Mawson's Hut at Commonwealth Bay. (Within a few weeks of setting up the white paint flaked and fell like snow at great inconvenience) \*

\$4052.

\* Earlier Igloos had painted, sprayfoamed insulation, but dampness and exposure to the weather conditions in the Southern Ocean would not have assisted retention on the walls!



Memories of this Igloo were revived when one of the speakers at the Mawson Symposium, held in Hobart in December 2011, was Jonathan Chester, one of the original Project Blizzard team that spent two summers recording architectural and archeological details of the site. I met him after his session and showed him photos of the Igloo panels strapped on the stern of the Dick Smith Explorer, the yacht used by the team to sail to Commonwealth Bay in November 1984.

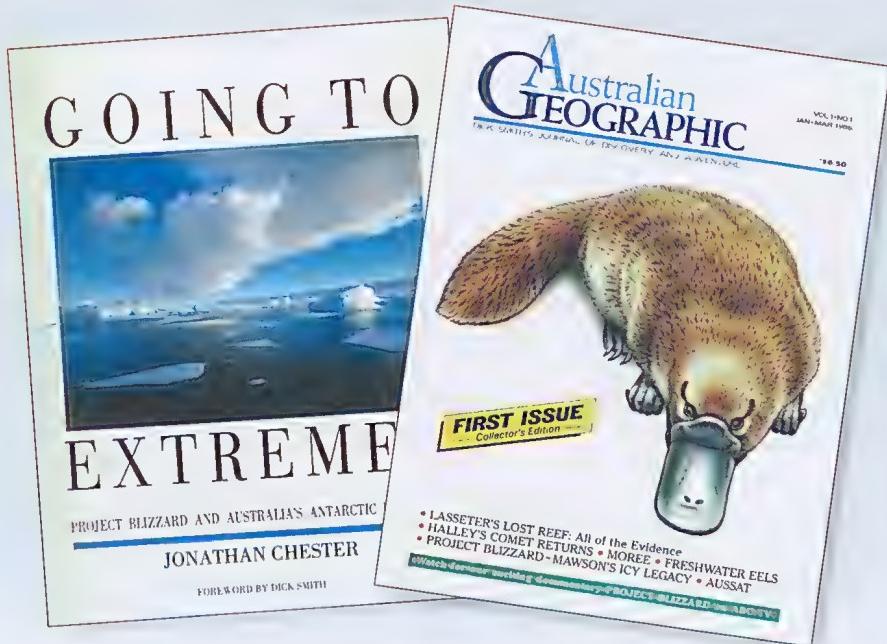


Above-left and bottom-right: the MHF team moved the Igloo from the vicinity of the Granholm Hut where it was originally installed by Project Blizzard in 1985, to near the Sorensen Hut in 1997. Courtesy Rob Easter, MHF.

Middle-left: Jonathan Chester aboard the Cartela during the Mawson Centenary Flotilla.

Left: the Igloo before disassembling to load aboard the Dick Smith Explorer.

Above: Igloo panels stacked onboard.



Above: Jonathan Chester's book about Project Blizzard's expeditions and the first Australian Geographic magazine.

Left: the Dick Smith Explorer departing Hobart.

Below: image from Jonathan Chester's Mawson Symposium presentation.



Since its use in the 1980s, this Igloo has been moved from its original position. It is now closer to other buildings used by members of the Mawson's Huts Foundation when weather conditions allow them to visit to continue their restoration work of the huts.





## Investigator's keel-haul

Australia's new Marine National Facility vessel started looking ship shape in May, as hundreds of tonnes of steel were lifted into place to form part of the keel of RV Investigator.

CSIRO Chief Executive Dr Megan Clark said significant progress has been made since construction of the 93.9 metre blue water research vessel started in January at the Sembawang Shipyard, a subsidiary of Sembcorp Marine in Singapore. The contract to design, build and commission the vessel was awarded to Teekay Holdings Australia, which partnered with the Sembawang Shipyard in Singapore because of its track record and strong commitment to new technologies and innovation.

"Two sections of the keel, each weighing around 140 tonnes, will be lifted into place, ready for welding together, to form the foundation of the vessel," said Dr Clark. "The hull is a very clever design, as it reduces the amount of air drawn under the vessel while it's moving. This helps to minimise interference when mapping the seafloor, using multibeam echo sounders, profilers, fish finding sonars and other acoustic sensors."

The hull on the ship will also house a gondola fitted with the latest marine scientific equipment and a retractable section of the keel includes a camera to improve observations."

Investigator will be operated by CSIRO and will be available to all Australian marine scientists. It replaces the 40-year-old Southern Surveyor.

In 2009 the Australian Government committed AU\$120 million to the purchase of a new research vessel for the Marine National Facility. The project is an initiative of the Australian Government being conducted as part of the Super Science Initiative and financed from the Education Investment Fund. To keep up to date, subscribe to <http://csirofrvblog.com/>.

### Sarah Schofield

Communication Officer, CSIRO Marine and Atmospheric Research

*Above: The ship is being built in blocks, which are then transported to this berth and welded together.*

*Top-right: Together these two blocks weigh almost 300 tonnes.*

*Right: More and more sections of the ship will be assembled over the next few months and welded into place.*





## More visitors at the MDC

This year the Marine Discovery Centre has had a great start to the year with approximately 1500 students and their teachers taking part in their programs. The students are from Kinder to Grade 12 and study a wide range of marine topics as well as see local marine species up close.

Visiting students are enjoying our four new seahorses recently acquired from Seahorse World and the large numbers of small schooling fish in the Channel have attracted some unusual visitors to the foreshore in front of the Centre.

This large smooth ray was feeding right in front of the Primary classroom while the Australasian grebes have been delighting staff and students with their quirky behaviour.

As well as staff being busy with classes the Centre's volunteers have opened the doors every Wednesday afternoon to show tourists and members of the local community this unique facility. In early May they had a visit from the members of the 'National Estuaries Network' whose annual meeting was held in Hobart this year. The NEN comprises estuary managers from each Australian state and territory as well as invited estuary researchers. Jason Whitehead from the Derwent Estuary Program who hosted the meeting this year commented "Our guests were very interested to see the centre the aquarium displays, and to hear about the educational programs being offered."



Later in the same week Dr Patti Virtue and Dr Kerrie Swadling from the IMAS Masters of Antarctic Science program chartered the Centre's research vessel Penghana to collect plankton samples with their students and show them techniques for measuring oceanographic parameters. This relationship between research science and the educational programs at the Centre is a very important one.

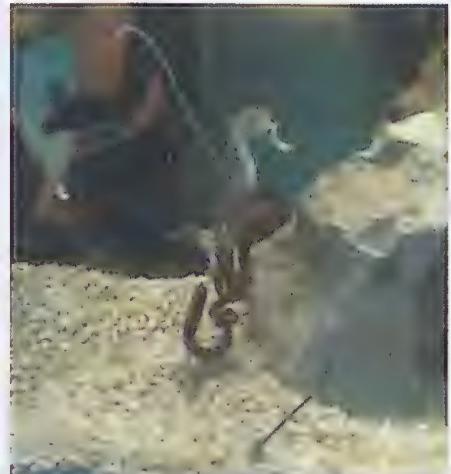
Marine Discovery Centre, Jetty Road, Woodbridge

Open Afternoons 2.00 – 4.00pm during term time.

Entry by donation

For enquiries ph 6267 4649

[www.woodbridge.tas.edu.au/mdc](http://www.woodbridge.tas.edu.au/mdc)



*Text and photos courtesy Marine Discovery Centre.*

# Awards and appointments

## CSIRO Award



Oceanographer Dr John Church was recently awarded Australia's highest scientific accolade: Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science. He was the lead sea level author for the 2013 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Report.

Based on 20 years of ocean studies, Dr Church's report described the various influences on sea level and assessed the contribution of each to the overall rise.

## New Chief Scientist



Dr Nick Gales has been appointed Australian Antarctic Division's new Chief Scientist, after working at AAD for more than 10 years.

Dr Gales started his career as a veterinarian/curator at a zoological marine park in Western Australia and has been involved in marine mammal research and management since 1980. He has also led the New Zealand Department of Conservation's marine mammal research program and more recently the Australian Marine Mammal Centre.

Dr Gales said he is honoured to be the new Chief Scientist and lead Australia's Antarctic science program. He takes over the role from John Gunn and will be overseeing the implementation of the Division's new 10-year Australian Antarctic science strategic plan released last year.

## Hobart oceanographer wins international prize for Southern Ocean science



Hobart oceanographer Dr Steve Rintoul has been awarded the prestigious 2012 Martha T. Muse Prize for Science and Policy in Antarctica ([www.museprize.org](http://www.museprize.org)) for his sustained and significant contributions towards the understanding and/or preservation of Antarctica.

A scientist at the Antarctic Climate & Ecosystem Cooperative Research Centre and CSIRO's Wealth from Oceans Research Flagship, Dr Rintoul has been studying the Southern Ocean and its influence on climate for the past 25 years. He also established the Southern Ocean Observing System at UTAS.

"Hobart is one of the few places in the world where I could have done my research. As home to the CSIRO, the Antarctic Climate and Ecosystems CRC, the Australian Antarctic Division, the University of Tasmania, and Australia's Integrated Marine Observing System, Hobart brings together a remarkable collection of people and resources for Southern Ocean research," he said.

Dr Rintoul will be awarded the Prize and deliver the Muse Prize Lecture at the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research Open Science Conference in Portland, Oregon in July.

## Honorary Member

On Friday 4 May, 2012 the Director of Antarctic Tasmania and Science Research Development, was invested at Government House as an Honorary Member (AM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia. This followed Denzil's appointment to the Order on 2 December, 2011.



The award acknowledges Denzil's service to the conservation of Antarctic marine life, particularly as Executive Secretary of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR).

This award follows Denzil's receipt of the prestigious WWF-sponsored Duke of Edinburgh Conservation Medal in 2007 and the South African Antarctic Medal in 1995 for his services to Antarctic science, marine conservation and ocean governance.

*Top-left and centre: courtesy Craig Macaulay, CSIRO. Above-left: courtesy AAD. Above-right: courtesy Antarctic Tasmania.*



## Polar News

### Norwegian visit

Dr Olav Orheim from the Fram Museum in Oslo, visited Hobart during the Amundsen centenary in March this year. He read from Amundsen's diary at a Utas lecture and attended the reenactment of the explorer's return to Hobart after being first to reach the South Pole.

### Ice-skating rink plans

The Hobart City Council and co-founder of the Henry Jones Art Hotel, Richard Crawford, are developing plans for an area of interlocking ice panels to be set up near Mawson's Place on the waterfront. Measuring 14.4m x 28.8m and 2cm thick, the rink would have an Antarctic theme with a ticket booth, rink wall, lighting and seating. Open seven days a week, it is anticipated 40,000 patrons would use the rink and promote tourism during the winter season.

### Whale support

The recent Great Tassie Survey, conducted by the Mercury newspaper, has found that 66% of Tasmanians support whaling protests and 83% believe the Federal Government should do more to stop whaling. However, fewer agreed with the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society's anti-whaling tactics.

Sea Shepherd activists are again claiming victory over Japanese whalers, estimating fewer than 50% of their whale quota was caught this season.

Hobart City Council's Alderman Bill Harvey has proposed that Hobart become the honorary seaport for the Seas Shepherd's Bob Barker, just as Fremantle, WA, is the seaport for Brigitte Bardot, Sea Shepherd's latest vessel.

### Fundraising penguins

Nineteen Australian expeditioners at Casey Station participated in Antarctica's first Cancer Council Relay for Life in May this year. Three women and fifteen men ran, walked and skied around a 400m loop course for 24 hours. Called the 'Very Long March of the Penguins', the team completed 850 km in temperatures ranging from minus 16 to minus 30 degrees C and raised \$11,300.

### ATCM Activities

The Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM) is the primary forum for the representatives of Parties to the Antarctic Treaty to exchange information and formulate measures, decisions and resolutions to further the principles and objectives of the Treaty. The outcomes of Treaty meetings are adopted by consensus of the Consultative Parties. The ATCM meets annually and the 2012 meeting will be the third time that Australia has hosted the ATCM. The meeting this year will be held at Hobart's Grand Chancellor Hotel.

The invitation to participate in the ATCM includes individuals and delegations representing:

- the 28 Consultative Parties: Argentina; Australia; Belgium; Brazil; Bulgaria; Chile; China; Ecuador; Finland; France; Germany; India; Italy; Japan; Korea (ROK); Netherlands; New Zealand; Norway; Peru; Poland; Russian Federation; South Africa; Spain; Sweden; Ukraine; United Kingdom; United States and Uruguay
- the 22 non-Consultative Parties: Austria; Belarus; Canada; Colombia; Cuba; Czech Republic; Denmark; Estonia; Greece; Guatemala; Hungary; Korea (DPRK); Malaysia; Monaco; Pakistan; Papua New Guinea; Portugal; Romania; Slovak Republic; Switzerland; Turkey and Venezuela

- three Observers: the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR); the Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs (COMNAP); and the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR)

- invited Experts: the Secretariat of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP); the Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition (ASOC); the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC); Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC); the International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO); the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO); the International Maritime Organization (IMO); the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN); United Nations Environment Program (UNEP); the World Meteorological Organization (WMO); and the World Tourism Organization (WTO)

The ATCM is chaired by a representative of the host country. Between the opening and closing plenary sessions, most of the work of the meeting takes place within the Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP) and various Working Groups. In recent years the following working groups have been established:

- Working Group on Legal and Institutional Affairs
- Working Group on Tourism and Non-Governmental Activities
- Working Group on Operational Matters

The conduct of the meeting is supported by the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat which is based in Argentina. The Secretariat and the host country collaborate closely in organising the meeting to achieve successful outcomes.



Huskies before the race



Volunteers waiting



Harnessing the huskies



Rod Ledingham as Amundsen



En route to the GPO



GPO speeches



Igloo fun



Hagglund in the bushes



Premier's choice



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# Polar Publications

## The Ice Balloon: S.A. Andrée and the Heroic Age of Arctic Exploration

Alec Wilkinson  
Knopf Canada  
Price: \$25.95

An account of a Swedish aeronaut's flight over the Arctic in a hydrogen balloon in 1897, with a brief history of exploration in the area.

## From Far and Wide: A complete History of Canada's Arctic Sovereignty

Peter Pigott  
Dundurn Press Ltd  
Price: \$16.99

Recounts the historic activities of the Canadian military in Canada's North in the early 20th century, after the British Royal Navy had mapped most of the Arctic Archipelago and the Canadian Prime Minister agreed to take up sovereignty of all the Arctic to keep out USA and Russia.

## Polar Wives: The Remarkable Women behind the World's Most Daring Explorers

Kari Herbert  
Greystone Books  
Price: \$27.95

Explores the lives of seven women whose husbands explored Arctic and Antarctic areas, including Jane Franklin and Emily Shackleton.

## A Tale for Our Generation: An account of the "Winter Journey"

Edward Wilson and Henry Bowers  
Australian Capital Equity Pty Ltd  
Price: \$49.95

Based on Wilson's and Bowers' diaries and including watercolours, sketch maps and Ponting's photos, this is an account of a journey taken in 1911 from Cape Evans to Cape Crozier to source unhatched Emperor penguin eggs.

## Farewell Dear People: Biographies of Australia's Lost Generation

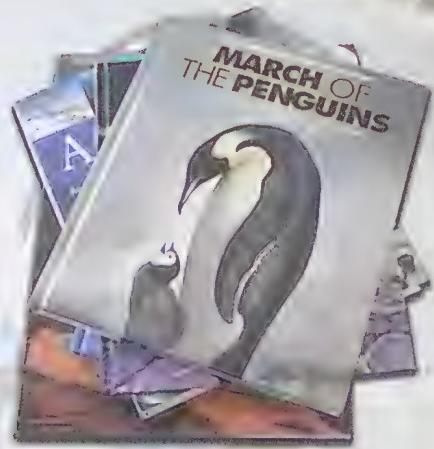
Ross McMullin  
Scribe  
Price: \$45.00

Includes a biography of Bob Bage, one of Mawson's 1911 Antarctic team given the roles of astronomer, assistant magnetician and recorder of tides.

## Down South: Australian Tradies in Antarctica

Susan Gordon Brown and Gayl O'Connor  
Price: \$80 inc Aus postage

Combines Susan's portraits and Gayl's stories about 25 Antarctic tradespeople.



## Still no Mawson: Frank Stillwell's Antarctic Diaries 1911-1913

Edited by Bernadette Hince  
Australian Academy of Science  
Price: \$24.95

Features Frank Hurley's photographs from the expedition when Stillwell and 14 companions waited for the return of Mawson, Ninnis and Mertz's overdue sledging party.

## THEATRE

### The Ice Suite

Karena Wynn-Molan

World premiere show performed at MONA on March 29, 2012. Based on the diaries of Robert Falcon Scott and his men, the show combines music, spoken word and visual imagery to imaginatively explore their emotional states during their final journey.



Photo: Klaus Arne Pedersen

## To all readers

The next edition, No. 60 will be the last.

Thank you to all who have contributed to the magazine over the past 15 years.

Back copies are available for \$6.00 each inc. GST and postage within Australia.

Full sets of 60 editions will be available after September 2012 for \$320 inc. GST and postage within Australia.

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 or phone (03) 6267 4774

## Antarctic Evolutionary Success Story



The 'antifreeze' glycoproteins in notothenioid fish - known as icefish - enabled them to survive when a global freeze led to a mass extinction of other species around 42 million years ago.



Courtesy Klaus Arne Pedersen



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1-30	June	2012	Latitude exhibition by Karin Beamont, marine biologist and Vicki West, Aboriginal artist. Jewellery, objects and installations. Art Space Gallery. Hobart.
5	June	2012	World Environment Day.
5	June	2012	Mawson's Scientific Legacy. Science Exchange, Adelaide, South Australia.
7	June	2012-	An Awfully Beautiful Place. Mixed media Antarctic art exhibition by Stephen Eastaugh. Carnegie Gallery, Hobart.
30	July	2012	
11-20	June	2012	35th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings. Hobart, Tasmania.
14	June	2012	TPN function for ATCM delegates. CCAMLR headquarters. Hobart, Tasmania.
16-24	June	2012	Longest Night Film Festival. State Cinema. North Hobart, Tasmania.
17	June	2012	Dedication of Lady Franklin's flag at morning song, St David's Cathedral. Hobart, Tas.
17-22	June	2012	ISOPE-2012 22nd International Offshore ((Ocean) and Polar Engineering Conference and Exhibition. Rhodes, Greece.
23	June	2012	Tasmanian ANARE Club Midwinter dinner. Hobart Function and Conference Centre. Contact <a href="mailto:anare.tasmania@yahoo.com.au">anare.tasmania@yahoo.com.au</a> . For details of all ANARE dinners, see <a href="http://www.anareclub.org.au">www.anareclub.org.au</a>
23	June	2012	Tour of Aurora Australis. 1.30pm. Hobart, Tasmania. Free. For bookings: (03) 6224 8573 or email <a href="mailto:anare.tasmania@yahoo.com.au">anare.tasmania@yahoo.com.au</a>
25-29	June	2012	Tenth International Conference on Permafrost. Tyumen, Russia.
28	June	2012	TPN meeting. CCAMLR headquarters. Hobart Tasmania.
30	June	2012	Last day of Film and Sound at the Extremes. National Film and Archives Canberra, ACT.
9-12	July	2012	The 7th Antarctic Meteorological Observation, Modeling and Forecasting Workshop. National Center for Atmospheric Research. Boulder, Colorado, USA.
13-26	July	2012	XXXII SCAR, COMNAP and Open Science Conferences. Portland, Oregon. USA. Includes TPN delegation and display 15-19 July.
5	August	2012	International Union of Geosciences International Congress. Brisbane, Queensland.
11-19	August	2012	National Science Week.
9	September	2012	Last day of Traversing Antarctica exhibition. Canberra, ACT.
10-24	September	2012	International Summer School for Students: 'Climate Change in the Marine Realm'. Wadden Sea Station, List, Sylt and the University of Bremen, Germany.
13	September	2012	TPN AGM and General Meeting (venue to be confirmed)
17-18	September	2012	Mawson the Musical. Hobart, Tasmania.

[centenary.antarctica.gov.au](http://centenary.antarctica.gov.au)

[antarcticcentennial.tas.gov.au](http://antarcticcentennial.tas.gov.au)

[www.environment.gov.au/about/media/events](http://www.environment.gov.au/about/media/events)

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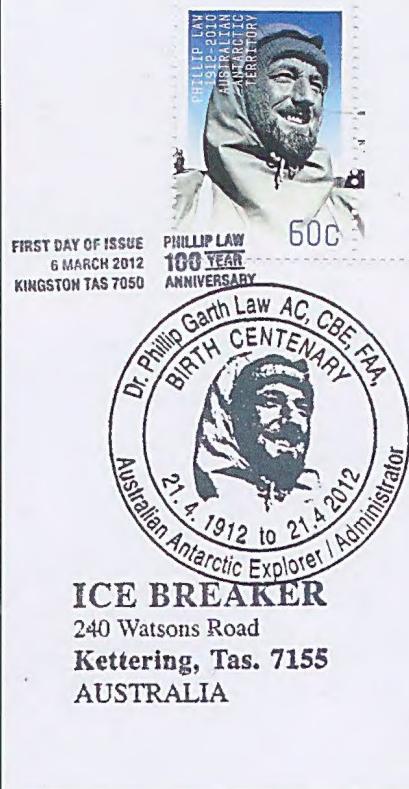
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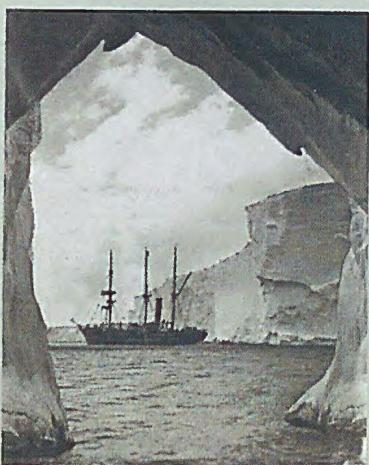
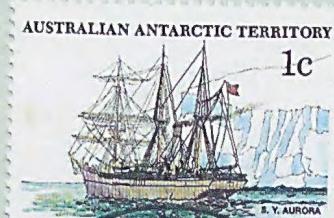
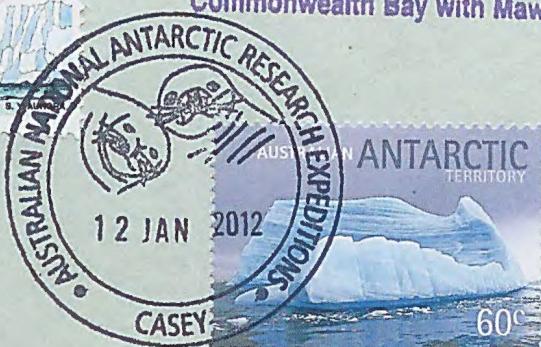
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Stamp covers courtesy Klaus Arne Pedersen



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## Draft shipping schedule

30	April	2012	Aurora Australis	V6	Arrives Hobart. Off-hire
16	September	2012-	Aurora Australis	V1	Departs Hobart for SIPEX
26	October	2012			
19	October	2012	L'Astrolabe		Departs for Antarctica
5-7	November	2012	Aurora Australis	V1	Arrives Hobart. Departs for Davis Station
21-29	November	2012	Aurora Australis	V2	Davis Station
10-12	December	2012	Aurora Australis	V2	Arrives Hobart. Departs for Casey station.



Southern Ocean. Courtesy Craig Macaulay, CSIRO.

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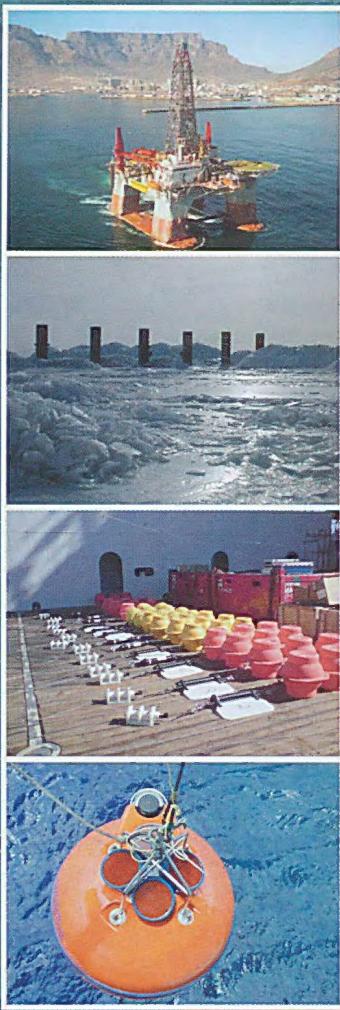
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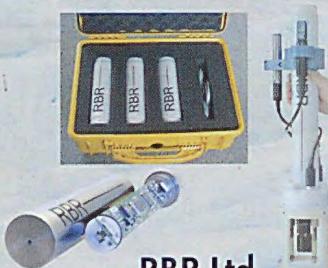


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